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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 MCT-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 ACDA-07 IO-13 /079 W
----------030143Z 040062 /73
R 021650Z MAY 77
FM USMISSION USBERLIN
TO AMEMBASSY BONN
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4683

C O N F I D E N T I A L USBERLIN 1491

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PINS, WB, GW
SUBJECT: TRANSPORT OF TERRORIST PRISONERS

REF: (A) USBERLIN 855, (B) BONN 6499, PRA. 5, (C) BONN 6222

1. STILL SMARTING FROM THE NEGATIVE FALLOUT THAT FOLLOWED THE MARCH 21 FIASCO INVOLVING THE TRANSFER OF A TERRORIST PRISONER TO STUTTGART (REF A), THE WEST BERLIN AUTHORITIES SOUGHT ADVANCE ALLIED APPROVAL AND EFFECTIVELY COORDINATED THE FLIGHT AND SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS FOR TWO SUBSEQUENT REQUIRED MOVEMENTS OF TERRORIST PRISONERS TO AND FROM BERLIN. ON APRIL 24, RAINER HOCKSTEIN, A RELATIVELY MINOR FIGURE ON THE TERRORIST/ANARCHIST SCENE, WAS BROUGHT TO BERLIN FROM HAMBURG FOR INTERROGATION AND RETURNED THE FOLLOWING DAY. BECAUSE THE SECURITY THREAT IN THAT CASE WAS MINIMAL, THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES PREFERRED FOR ECONOMY REASONS TO USE A REGULARLY SCHEDULED PAA FLIGHT FOR TRANSPORTING HOCHSTEIN AND THE THREE ACCOMPANYING WEST BERLIN POLICE GUARDS.

2. THE SECOND CASE INVOLVED THE TRANSPORT OF TWO HARD-CORE TERRORIST PRISONERS IN THE PERIOD MAY 20-23 TO AND FROM BERLIN FOR INTERROGATION AND WITNESS CONFRONTATION IN CONNECTION WITH THEIR POSSIBLE INVOLVEMENT IN THE VON DRENKMANN AND LORENZ
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CASES. THE PRISONERS WERE NORBERT KROECHER AND MANFRED ADOMEIT, THE GERMAN TERRORISTS WHO WERE ARRESTED SEVERAL MONTHS AGO IN SWEDEN AND EXTRADITED TO THE FRG. THE TWO ARE SUSPECTED OF HAVING DIRECT LINKS TO THE 2 JUNE MOVEMENT.

3. AS WAS DONE IN MARCH WHEN THE PRISONER HAD TO BE FLOWN TO STUTTGART, THE POLICE AGAIN UTILIZED THE SERVICES OF A

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UK-REGISTERED AIR- TAXI SERVICE (AIR LYNX AVIATION) ON THIS OCCASION
TO TRANSPORT KROECHER AND ADOMEIT BETWEEN COLOGNE AND EMPELHOF.
IT APPEARS THAT ONE OR MORE ALLIED CHARTER COMPANIES IN BERLIN
WOULD HAVE ACCEPTED THE BUSINESS (PAA REFUSED, HOWEVER), BUT
THEIR ROUND TRIP PRICE COULD NOT COMPETE WITH THE DM 6,500 ($2,800)
FARE CHARGED BY
THE UK AIR-TAXI FIRM. ACCOMPANYING THE PRISONERS TO AND
FROM BERLIN WERE SIX BKA AGENTS; THE ALLIES MADE IT UNMISTAKABLY
CLEAR TO THE POLICE, HOWEVER, THAT THE SECURITY RESPONSIBILITY
OF THEIR FEDERAL COLLEAGUES EXTENDED ONLY TO THE AIR MOVEMNT
OF THE PRISONERS, WHICH TOOK PLACE WITHOUT INCIDENT. ACCORDING
TO STAATSSCHUTZ,THE INTENSIVE INTERROGATION OF KROECHER AND
ADOMEIT AND THEIR CONFRONTATION WITH WITNESSES IN THE MAJOR
2 JUNE CRIMES DID NOT UNCOVER ANY SIGNFICANT NEW EVIDENCE
OR LEADS.

4. COMMENT.
A. AS THE RESULT OF AMBASSADOR STOESSEL RAISING THE STUTTGART
INCIDENT WITH GEHLHOFF (REF B), THE CONCURRENT WORKING LEVEL
BONN GROUP CONSIDERATION OF THE MATTER (REF C), AN D THE SEPARATE
CRITICAL COMPLAINT LODGED BY THE ALLIES WITH THE SENAT,
WE BELIEVE THE MESSAGE HAD BEEN CLEARLY CONVEYED TO THE GERMAN
BUREAUCRACY OF THE NEED FOR(1) FULL AND TIMELY COORDINATION
WITH THE ALLIES WHENEVER THEY PLAN TO TRANSPORT TERRORIST
PRISONERS TO AND FROM THE CITY, AND (2) STRICT SUPERVISION
AND CONTROL OF THE OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES OF FRG LAW
ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL WHEN THEY COME TO BERLIN.

B. WE HAVE LEARNED THAT AS A DIRECT RESULT OF THE EARLIER
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INCIDENT, A STRONG VERBAL ADMONISHMENT WAS ADMINISTERED BY
THE SENAT CHANCELLERY TO THE POLICE IN GENERAL AND IN PARTICULAR
TO HERR MANFRED KITTLAUS OF STAATSSCHUTZ, WHOSE STAFF WAS PRINCIPALLY
RESPONSIBLE FOR INADEQUATE ADVANCE COORDINATION WITH THE ALLIES.
KITTLAUS, ONE OF THE MOST HIGHL ESTEEMED YOUNGER BERLIN POLICE
OFFICIALS, WAS SHAKEN BY THE REPRIMAND. HE HAS SINCE INFORMED
THE ALLIES THAT POLICE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES HAVE BEEN
STRENGTHENED TO ASSURE TIMELY AND EFFECTIVE COORDINATION IN THE
FUTURE WITH THE ALLIES. FURTHER EVIDENCE THAT THE POLICE HERE
PROFITED FROM THEIR ERROR IS THE FACT THAT KITTLAUS AND OTHER
SENIOR BERLIN POLICE OFFICIALS ARE TAKING ADVANTAGE OF VISITS
AND LECTURES TO LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES IN THE FRG TO EDUCATE
THEIR COLLEAGUES ON THE ROLE OF THE ALLIES IN BERLIN.
C. THE MISSION IS POUCHING TO THE EMBASSY COPY OF THE DETAILED
SCENARIO OF THE MARCH 21 INCIDENT AS RECONSTRUCTED BY THE LOCAL
AUTHORITIES AT THE REQUEST OF THE ALLIES. THE SCENARIO
SHEDS NO NEW LIGHT ON THE INCIDENT EXCEPT TO PROVE THAT THE
KIND OF EARLY WARNING AND DETAILED CONSULTATION WITH THE
ALLIES THAT CHARACTERIZED THE MOVEMENTS OF HOCHSTEIN, KROECHER

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AND ADOMEIT WAS LACKING WHEN THE PRISONER BRAUN WAS TRANSPORTED
TO STUTTGART FOR INTERROGATION. WE UNDERSTAND THIS SCENARIO
HAS ALSO BEEN SENT BY THE SENAT TO BONN (CHANCELLOR'S
OFFICE OF FOREING MINISTRY) AAS A FOLLOW-UP TO THE AMBASSADOR'S
APPROACH. GEORGE

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 02-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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